

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

March 6, 2021 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 6:20

Interactive and Music Fest

Interactive study—1:00 Dave Havar
Music Fest—2:00 Multiple selections
(Not recorded or transmitted)

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader Ron Avey
Pianist Dixon Cartwright
Scripture reading Exodus 3:18–22 and 4:21–23
Sermon Dave Havar

Quick takes

1. Last week's Wednesday-night Bible study—Here is information about last week's Wednesday-night Bible study (at 7:00).
 - Presenter—Dave Havar
 - Title—"Lessons From the Exodus—Part 2 of 4"
2. Wednesday-night Bible study on March 10—Here is some information about this week's Wednesday-night Bible study.
 - Date—March 10
 - Time—7:00 p.m. (central time)
 - Presenter—Dave Havar
 - Title—"Lessons From the Exodus—Part 3 of 4"
 - To be transmitted live on website and Facebook page
3. Schedule for March 13—Following is the schedule for Saturday, March 13.
 - 1:00 p.m. Interactive study—Wynn Skelton
 - 2:00 Presentation study—Scott Hoefker
Live transmission—2:00 and 3:00
 - 3:00 Church service—Sermon by Scott Hoefker

4. Memorial on Friday evening—March 26
 - Memorial of the suffering and death of our Lord
 - “The night He was betrayed”—1 Corinthians 11:23
 - New Testament symbols—1 Corinthians 11:23-26
 - 7:30 p.m.
 - Live transmission
5. Church service on Saturday—March 27
 - This year—same day when temple lambs were killed
 - Temple lambs—died at 3:00
 - Guest speaker—Mardy Cobb
 - Interactive study—1:00
 - Presentation study—2:00
 - Live transmission—2:00 and 3:00
 - Church service—3:00
6. Traditional meal—Saturday evening, March 27
 - Traditional meal depicting deliverance from Egypt
 - Invitation to eat in the building
 - Hors d’oeuvres at 5:30 p.m.
 - Meal starting at 6:00 p.m.
 - Please sign up at Information Table
 - Choice of lamb or chicken
7. First day of Unleavened Bread—Sunday, March 28
 - Interactive study—Noon
 - Presentation study—1:00 p.m.
 - Live transmission—1:00 and 2:00
 - Church service—2:00
8. Remembering time of Christ’s resurrection
 - Three days and three nights after His death
 - Tuesday, March 30—evening
9. Seventh day of Unleavened Bread—Saturday, April 3
 - Interactive—1:00 p.m.
 - Presentation study—2:00
 - Live transmission—2:00 and 3:00
 - Church service—3:00
 - Potluck meal—4:00
10. Edifying the Body—This week’s article is “Questions to Differentiate Between a Liberal and a Leftist” by Dennis Prager.
11. Among Friends—This week’s article is “Deliverance From Egypt Was Certain” by Dave Havir.
12. Eye on the World—This week’s “Eye on the World” is 40 pages.

Prayer updates

Please remember to pray for the following people who live at home but are not able to regularly attend our church service—**Sonny Rosenberger, Laura Moran, David Bonilla, Annette Payne, Ronnie Shirley** and **Timberly Dunnam**.

Please remember to pray for the following people who are rehabbing at Legend Oaks Nursing Home in Gladewater—**Ron Feaker, Elaine Holloway** and **Donna Weese**.

David Bonilla is scheduled for a follow-up appointment at the heart clinic on Wednesday. His right arm has no movement, but he has movement in his right leg. He can walk with assistance.

Last week we orally mentioned that **Grace Kouniadis** (sister of **Laura Moran**) went to the hospital due to challenges in her right foot. Apparently, her diagnosis in January of cellulitis contributed to the problem. A doctor first talked to her about the possibility of removing her right foot. The doctor has since talked to her about removing a portion of her leg above her knee. She is in Mother Francis Hospital in Room 5539.

New prayer requests

Becky Bonilla is scheduled for rotator-cuff surgery on March 18.

Dan Wilson of Spokane, Wash. (brother of **David Wilson**), has been diagnosed with a cerebral-vascular disease.

Arvil Elliott of Leander died on Feb. 22. Please remember his wife, **Joan**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Brenda Howard of Hancock County, Tenn., died on Feb. 27, while she was on her way to a church service in nearby Virginia. Authorities were searching for her since last Saturday and on Friday they finally discovered her and her vehicle submerged in the Clinch River. Please remember her husband, **Bob**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Dana Lynn Rehak of Big Sandy died on Feb. 28. Please remember her husband, **Del**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

“Deliverance From Egypt Was Certain”

This article is from the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website, churchofgodbig sandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of March 6, 2021.

By **Dave Havir**

BIG SANDY, Texas—This is the time of the year when my friends and I are greatly anticipating the memorial of the suffering and death of the Son of God. We enjoy studying the scriptures in the New

Testament that describe the significant event.

Like most believers, I seek to base my life upon the teachings of the New Testament. But, like many religious people, I also place historical value in the lessons and teachings of the Old Testament.

Last week, we talked about how the children of Israel ended up in Egypt prior to their famous deliverance.

This week, I want to focus upon the lesson that Israel's deliverance from Egypt was certain.

Stephen's history

When Stephen (of the book of Acts) was accused of speaking blasphemy against the holy place and the law (Acts 6:13-14), he defended himself by reciting highlights of the Old Testament history—starting with Abraham.

In the course of time, Stephen got to the history of Moses. These verses about Moses are found in Acts 7:20-44. I found it interesting that Stephen's account (although much shorter than the Exodus account) followed the chronological path—with a notable exception.

To me, Acts 7:25 seemed out of place. However, that verse opens the door to a great discussion.

Moses didn't readily accept

Acts 7:25—"For he supposed that his brethren would have understood that God would deliver them by his hand, but they did not understand."

It is true that the children of Israel did not always accept that God would deliver them by the hand of Moses. But did you notice that Moses did not always accept that God was going to deliver them by the hand of Moses?

(I am not criticizing Moses about his moments of doubt. In fact, I find it helpful to realize that children of God have moments of uncertainty—and God still loves us.)

Let's notice some verses.

■ Exodus 3:7-10—God told Moses that He was going to deliver the people by sending Moses to Pharaoh.

■ Exodus 3:11—Initially, Moses expressed reservations.

■ Exodus 3:12-15—God said reassuring words.

■ Exodus 4:10—Moses again expressed reservations.

■ Exodus 4:11-12—God again reassured him.

■ Exodus 4:13—Moses asked for someone else to be sent.

■ Exodus 4:14-16—Although God was irritated (the Bible says He expressed "anger"), He agreed to send Aaron to help Moses.

Amazing truths

Let me share with you some amazing truths that Moses didn't initially recognize. However, many Bible students today make the same mistake—even though we have the advantage of the recorded history.

The solution for Moses and the children of Israel was certain.

Exodus 3:19-20—"But I am sure that the king of Egypt will not let you go, no, not even by a mighty hand. So I will stretch out My hand and strike Egypt with all My wonders which I will do in its midst; and after that he will let you go."

Exodus 4:21—"And the LORD said to Moses, 'When you go back to Egypt, see that you do all those wonders before Pharaoh which I have put in your hand. But I will harden his heart, so that he will not let the people go.' "

God even gave Moses early notice about the 10th plague.

Exodus 4:22-23—"Then you shall say to Pharaoh, 'Thus says the LORD: "Israel is My son, My firstborn. So I say to you, let My son go that he may serve Me. But if you refuse to let him go, indeed I will kill your son, your firstborn." ' "

Hardened Pharaoh's heart

Do you appreciate the significance of the scriptures in the book of Exodus describing the action of God "hardening" Pharaoh's heart to create a promised conclusion?

Do you appreciate the significance of the scriptures in the book of Romans when the apostle Paul talked about the book of Exodus?

Romans 9:15-18—"For He says to Moses, 'I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whomever I will have compassion.' So then it is not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God who shows mercy. For the Scripture says to Pharaoh, 'For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I may show My power in you, and that My name may be declared in all the earth.' Therefore He has mercy on whom He wills, and whom He wills He hardens."